

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### NATHAN MICHAEL KELLY FOR THE AWARD OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathan Michael Kelly, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 205, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Nathan has been involved in scouting, he has earned 47 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Historian, Bugler, Scribe, Patrol Leader, Librarian, Assistant Patrol Leader and Chaplain.

For his Eagle Scout project, Nathan completed a landscaping project around a mausoleum at the Blue Springs Cemetery in Blue Springs, Missouri. Nathan has also earned several special awards including the 12 Month Camper Award, Internet Safety Award, Leave No Trace Award, Snorkeling Award, World Conservation Award, and the 50 Miler Award.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathan Michael Kelly for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

### HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. LEO THE GREAT CATHOLIC SCHOOL

#### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Leo the Great Catholic School on the occasion of their 50th anniversary.

St. Leo the Great Catholic School focuses on the development of Catholic values and attitudes, as well as the attainment of knowledge and skills necessary for the student's spiritual, moral, intellectual, social and physical development. The basic curriculum of St. Leo's School consists of the following subjects: religion, reading, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, fine arts, health and safety, physical education, computer education, library and foreign language.

The history of St. Leo's School dates back to 1952, when St. Mary's Parish in Fairfax Station, Virginia, laid the foundation by developing a program to transport students to established parochial schools in the Metropolitan Washington area. This program led to a classroom for St. Leo's parish first and second graders in the St. Charles School of Arlington.

In 1957, the Benedictine Community of Bristow, Virginia, opened St. Leo the Great

Catholic School with four temporary classrooms. The next 10 years produced a series of ups and downs for the school, as they struggled to provide adequate space and staffing for their students. Nonetheless, they held steadfast to their vision of the future and instated a permanent kindergarten and primary education program through an abundance of support from nearby parish communities.

St. Leo the Great Catholic continues to thrive 50 years after its inception. Along with its strong curriculum, it is known for having a rock climbing wall, Spanish program, television studio and award winning band. In 2006, St. Leo's School received the National Blue Ribbon Award of Excellence, which is considered to be the highest honor an American school can receive.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending and congratulating St. Leo the Great Catholic School on 50 years of distinction. I look forward to applauding its continued growth and success for many years to come.

### IN HONOR OF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month—a celebration of Americans of Hispanic heritage and their collective and individual contributions to our community and to our Nation.

Hispanic Heritage Month is a celebration of the five hundred year history of Hispanic culture in and its contribution to America. Hispanic Americans have contributed immeasurably to all areas of our culture—from medicine, law, and business to education, music, and the fine arts. Hispanic Americans in our community and in communities across the country are life-saving doctors and nurses, veterans, inspiring professors, dedicated teachers, committed elected officials, fair-minded judges, and hardworking factory employees. Americans of Hispanic heritage continue to bring energy, innovation and a real sense of social justice to America, while retaining the cultural traditions of their homeland for all citizens to enjoy.

I honor in a special way Hispanic American servicemen and women. Hispanic Americans have a long and honorable history of service to our country in the Armed Forces. They have served valiantly at all levels and in every capacity, and I salute them for their service to our country.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, and join me in expressing my gratitude for the outstanding contributions made by Hispanic Americans. Their journey to America, fraught with significant obstacles and

strife, paved the way for a better life for their children and future generations, and signifies what it means to be an American. Within our diversity we find strength, and within our traditions we find unity. Because of their journey, and the journey of people from all points of the world, we are stronger as a community, more unified as a nation, and better as people.

### WYATT HOFFMAN FOR THE AWARD OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Wyatt Hoffman, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Venturing Crew 2633, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Wyatt has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Wyatt has been involved in scouting, he has earned 28 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Chaplain's Aide. Wyatt is also a Hardway Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

For his Eagle Scout project, Wyatt generated community support for soldiers in Operation Iraqi Freedom through providing care letters and boxes of morale support items currently in short supply with the US Armed Forces.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Wyatt Hoffman for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

### COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANNANDALE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR ACTION

#### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Annandale Christian Community for Action, ACCA, on the occasion of their 40th anniversary.

ACCA is an alliance of 26 churches in the Annandale community which strives to unite all Christians in an effort to promote and sponsor Christian social action. Its motto, "doing what Jesus would do," is the principle that guides the ACCA in its mission to serve those in need. The volunteer organization provides day care, food, rental assistance, furniture and other services to low-income families in the Annandale/Bailey's Crossroads area.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

ACCA began in October 1967, when Fred and Emily Ruffing witnessed and acted upon a tremendous need in their community. The couple worked for a government-subsidized daycare center in Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Alexandria, which had just enough resources to provide for families on welfare, but not the working poor. Distressed at the idea of making families return to welfare to provide their children with daycare services, Mr. and Mrs. Ruffing set out to organize their own daycare center with the help of eight local churches. Through an abundance of support from the local community, they succeeded in meeting the need and led their organization, ACCA, to branch out into other activities such as transportation, housing and emergency cash assistance.

I have had the pleasure of working with ACCA on so many issues affecting people in need, from establishing its daycare center, to helping found the Bailey's Crossroads homeless shelters, to its food and furniture programs for the poor. Their dedication has made a difference for thousands of families.

While ACCA now provides an array of services to those in need, its original daycare facility continues to thrive as the Child Development Center in the old Annandale Elementary School on Columbia Pike. It cares for over 200 infants and children of the working poor.

In memory of its founder, Fred Ruffing, ACCA provides an annual memorial scholarship for aspiring college students with disabilities. Emily Ruffing continues to work in the Child Development Center as a social worker.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Annandale Christian Community for Action for being the embodiment of Christian love in and around the Annandale community. Their continued success serves as a testament to the power of volunteerism and what can happen when individuals come together in faith to accomplish what others never dreamt possible. I call upon my colleagues to join me in commending and congratulating the ACCA on 40 years of excellence.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE ORIGINAL HARVEST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 50th year of the Original Harvest Missionary Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio. For the past five decades, the leadership and membership of the Church has served to lift our Cleveland community through worship, faith and song.

The Church came to life in 1957, when the Reverend Marcellus Chatman, guided by his faith and a mission to serve, founded the Original Harvest Missionary Baptist Church. His wife, Mrs. Anna Lee Young Chatman, not only named the Church but also organized, directed and performed in the Church choir. Their daughters, Marcella and Ruby, have also been faithful members and leaders of the Church since its inception: Marcella as pianist and Ruby as administrator of Harvest Day Care, which was founded by their mother in 1969.

The loyalty, support and commitment that the Chatman family continues to infuse throughout our neighborhoods are also reflected within the Church congregation. Reverend Fred Caffie, Jr. began his service in 1979, and served for 25 years. The Church Patriarch and Musical Director, David Smith, has faithfully served the Church for over 30 years. The Reverend Michael W. Turner, who was installed as Pastor in early 2005, continues the Church legacy of hope, joy and inspiration.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Chatman family, and all the leaders and members of the Original Harvest Missionary Baptist Church, past and present, as they celebrate 50 years of faith, love and spirituality that continue to strengthen our community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FREEDOM ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today, along with Representatives TOM LANTOS and SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, I am reintroducing the "International Women's Freedom Act." This legislation establishes an Office of International Women's Rights within the State Department headed by the appointed Ambassador at Large, and additionally, would create a United States Commission on International Women's Rights. The positive links between the empowerment of women and effective and sustainable development are very clear and this legislation would seek to protect women's rights by channeling U.S. security and development assistance to countries that are not found in gross violations of women's rights. I believe that all people, regardless of gender, should have the power to shape their lives and participate in their communities without the fear of oppression. When given the tools they need, such as education, access to employment, land, and economic assets, and the opportunity to contribute to civic life, women and girls improve their situation in society and have a positive impact on society as a whole. By annually reviewing the status of women's rights in each country and designating countries of particular concern, more succinct policy recommendations can be made to the President, the Secretary of State, and the Congress.

We require the State Department to issue reports on battling international bribery, religious freedom, and narcotics control, among many others. Creating a report on the status of women's rights is vitally important to assuring the rights of women worldwide.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES HENLEY

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of James Henley's 41 years of

public service as Sacramento's city historian. Mr. Henley leaves a lasting legacy in Sacramento and he will be deeply missed.

In 1965, the then city historian and Sacramento State professor Aubrey Neasham asked Mr. Henley to read archived blueprints. As a graduate student in the pursuit of a masters degree in history, James was inspired to not only teach history but to also work with it. Mr. Henley's career began in a three-person city department that focused on the Old Sacramento Historic District, now known as Old Sacramento. Designated as a State Historic Park, Old Sacramento portrays the time of the Gold Rush with cobblestone streets and wooden sidewalks, shops, restaurants and museums that attract 5 million visitors annually. Upon the retirement of Ms. Neasham, only one person could truly continue her work, and Mr. Henley took over the department. Under his leadership, the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center, also known as, SAMCC, was born.

The SAMCC acquires, preserves, and promotes the study of Sacramento's history through city and county historical records. These collections include personal manuscripts, business records, official records of the city and county, photographs and other artifacts relating to the region's history. The records are the heart of Sacramento's history as James has preserved them for future generations to enjoy.

The preservation achievements of Mr. Henley and his staff are evident in the 5½ miles of movable shelves that house objects, photographs and documents at SAMCC. This includes parts of a Gutenberg Bible, negatives from The Sacramento Bee, and archived news film shot by KCRA 3. All in all, the records that Mr. Henley has preserved make the SAMCC collection the largest city archives in California and second only to the state archive. This has been a truly wonderful achievement.

Mr. Henley has not only served as a strong leader in preserving the history of the great Sacramento region, but also is a champion for the conservation of the City of Sacramento. He oversaw the publishing of Vanishing Victorians; a book that led to preservation efforts of Sacramento's historic Victorians in the 1960s and 1970s, when many were destroyed for redevelopment projects. His preservation efforts also contributed to the restoration of the historic Memorial Auditorium, the B.F. Hastings Building, as well as establishing the California State Railroad Museum. That museum is now a crown jewel in Old Sacramento and attracts thousands of families each year.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. James Henley's distinguished commitment to the preservation of Sacramento's distinguished history. Mr. Henley always has stood as an instrumental force behind the protection of Sacramento's history for generations to come. We all are thankful for his efforts. As James Henley's colleagues and friends gather to honor his service for the city, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing him continued good fortune in his future endeavors.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, on October 1, 2007, I was absent from the House due to a death in the family. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall Vote No. 924, a motion by Ms. CASTOR to suspend the rules and pass H. Con. Res. 185, a resolution commending the 1st Brigade Combat Team/34th Infantry Division of the Minnesota National Guard upon its completion of the longest continuous deployment of any United States military unit during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

I would also have voted "yea" on rollcall Vote No. 925, a motion by Mr. CLAY to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2276, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 203 North Main Street in Vassar, Michigan, as the "Corporal Christopher E. Esckelson Post Office Building."

Finally, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall Vote No. 926, a motion by Mr. CLAY to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3325, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 235 Mountain Road in Suffield, Connecticut, as the "Corporal Stephen R. Bixler Post Office."

IN HONOR OF BERNARD J. MILANO, 2007 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT FOR THE IAOAPOGH MOUNTAINS BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bernard J. Milano of Allendale, New Jersey for his dedicated support for the 35,000 Boy Scouts of North Jersey. Last week, Mr. Milano was honored by the Iaoapogh Mountains District of the Northern New Jersey Council for the Boy Scouts for his long record of service to these Scouts. This District directly serves more than 3,100 young people.

Bernie Milano is supportive of a number of worthy organizations beyond just the Boy Scouts. In addition, he serves as a member of President Bush's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and as chair for the business school advisory boards at North Carolina A&T State University, from which he has an Honorary Doctorate, and local Ramapo College. Furthermore, he is a member of the Ramapo College Foundation Board of Governors, of which he served as chair from 2002–06.

Mr. Milano is also a Senior Warden of the Church of the Epiphany in Allendale, a member of the Newark Episcopal Diocese Commission on Ministry and Audit Committee, and a member of the National Episcopal Church Foundation Board of Directors, of which he served as chair for 6 years.

Mr. Milano has served on the Allendale Board of Adjustment and board of education. He was a founding trustee of the Allendale

Foundation for Education Excellence. And, he serves on several national boards, including for the Points of Light Foundation and Business Civic Leadership Center. Trained as a CPA with a B.S. in Accounting from Temple University, Mr. Milano is president of three not-for-profit organizations: KPMG Foundation, KPMG Disaster Relief Fund, and the PhD Project Association, which is a \$6 million collaborative effort between corporate and academic America to promote greater diversity in the business world.

Mr. Milano has been active with the Scouts for over a decade. The father of six and grandfather of another six, he and his wife, Sharon Pierson, understand the value of scouting in providing boys and young men with positive outlets for their energies and talents. Through scouting, they develop character and leadership skills and promote citizenship and fitness. This is only possible because people like Bernie Milano give of their time, their energy, and their resources. I commend him for his service to these boys.

## NATIONAL TELEWORK WEEK

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, today my colleague Rep. JOHN SARBANES is joining with me in introducing a resolution to promote the establishment of National Telework Week and provide an opportunity to encourage more employers to consider telework for their employees. Telework should be a regular part of the 21st century workplace. The best part of telework is that it improves the quality of life for all.

Nearly 20 million Americans telework today, and according to experts, at least 40 percent of American jobs are compatible with telework. Telework reduces traffic congestion and air pollution. It reduces gas consumption and our dependency on foreign oil. Telework is good for families—working parents have flexibility to meet everyday demands. Telework provides people with disabilities greater job opportunities. Telework helps fill our Nation's labor market shortage. It is also a good way for retirees to pick up part-time work.

Companies save significantly when they have a strong telecommuting program. At one national telecommunications company, nearly 25 percent of its employees work from home at least one day per week. The company found positive results in the way of fewer days of sick leave, better worker retention, higher productivity, and increased morale.

According to a George Mason University (Fairfax, VA) study, for every 1 percent of the Washington metropolitan region workforce that telecommutes, there is a 3 percent reduction in traffic delays. George Mason University completed another study which suggests that on Friday mornings there is a 2 to 4 percent drop in traffic volume in the Washington metro region, a so-called "Friday effect."

This is promising news because it means that with just a 1 to 2 percent increase in the number of commuters who leave their cars parked and instead telework just one or two days per week, we could get to the so-called "Friday effect" all week long.

Just a few weeks ago the Texas Transportation Institute at Texas A&M University released its annual traffic congestion study which calculates that congestion creates a \$78 billion annual drain on the U.S. economy due to 4.2 million lost hours of productivity and 2.9 billion gallons of wasted gas. That's not even considering the air pollutants caused by idling vehicles around the Nation.

I have stated before that work is something you do, not someplace you go. Hopefully we can make telework as commonplace as the morning traffic report. There is nothing magical about strapping ourselves into a car and driving sometimes up to an hour and a half, arriving at a workplace and sitting before a computer. We can access the same information from a computer in our living rooms. Wouldn't it be great if we could replace the evening rush hour commute with time spent with the family, or coaching little league or other important quality of life matters?

It is time that employers give telework a shot. National Telework Week is an ideal time for employers, for just one day during one week of the year to allow employees to work from home or an alternative work site. I know that telework may not work for every job. But, there are jobs today that lend themselves to telework for which employees make the trip into the office every day of the week. Resources abound to help employees and employers set up appropriate telework programs for their businesses. Calculations also can show savings to the environment, the employer and the employee.

I encourage everyone around the Nation to give telework a chance, find out what it's about and how it can help make your business, our environment and our communities better.

Madam Speaker, I hope our colleagues will consider signing on as a cosponsor of this resolution to promote telework and provide choices for employees and savings for employers.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF FAIRFIELD CITY MANAGER  
KEVIN O'ROURKE

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Kevin O'Rourke, who has served the City of Fairfield, CA as city manager since 1997.

Mr. O'Rourke has dedicated over 30 years of his life to serving the public. After serving as the city manager for the cities of Stanton from 1981 to 1985 and Buena Park from 1985 to 1997, Mr. O'Rourke came to Fairfield, inspiring an unprecedented revitalization in the historic town.

During his tenure, Mr. O'Rourke spearheaded the effort to modernize the public services available in Fairfield as the city was undergoing a radical transformation. He helped to modernize both the police and fire departments, enabling them to serve a rapidly urbanizing and growing region. As a part of the project, he built new fire stations and increased personnel, guaranteeing 24/7 paramedic service and quality law enforcement to the entire population.

Always a friend to the business community, Mr. O'Rourke's creativity and vision helped to achieve the longest labor agreements in the State of California, guaranteeing a stable and positive environment for employee groups as they serve the residents of the community. In addition, his efforts brought a vibrant commercial center to the Cordelia area of Fairfield, something the residents had identified as a critical need.

As chairman of the Travis Community Consortium, his legislative efforts assured the continued livelihood and superiority of Travis Air Force Base, the largest air mobility organization in the Air Force. His hard work brought a squadron of C-17s to the base, enhancing its mission as the West Coast terminal for aeromedical evacuation aircraft returning sick or injured patients from the Pacific area.

Mr. O'Rourke also successfully coordinated city, county, and State resources to bring many projects to Fairfield such as a state of the art public library, a successful auto mall along Interstate 80—a project that had eluded the city for decades and brings needed sales tax revenues to the general fund—and numerous recreational facilities important for after school programs and neighborhood events.

Mr. O'Rourke's many accomplishments have immeasurably improved the city of Fairfield and enriched the lives of its residents. I would like to thank him for his years of public service and wish him success and happiness in his future endeavors.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the Chamber for rollcall votes 924, 925, and 926 on October 1, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 924, 925, and 926.

#### TO CONGRATULATE THE INDUCTION OF DR. LARRY HORNBECK OF TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INTO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the induction of Dr. Larry Hornbeck of Texas Instruments into the National Academy of Engineering.

Election to the National Academy of Engineering is among the highest professional distinctions accorded to an engineer, recognizing important contributions to engineering theory and practice.

Dr. Hornbeck invented the Digital Micro-mirror Device, or DMD, an optical semiconductor that is at the core of Texas Instruments' Digital Light Processing technology. His career at TI spans 34 years.

Texas Instruments is in my District, and I am proud of the advances in computing that

they have made and am also proud of their contributions and outreach to Dallas.

The Federal Government, through its support of basic research, played a pivotal role in the creation of the DMD.

The foundation of this technology was developed through the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the National Security Agency research in the 1970s to assist with target detection and recognition. In 1989, DARPA provided funds to investigate the technology's application to high-definition TV.

Today, DLP is the only American display technology. Each chip contains millions of tiny mirrors that move independently to display trillions of colors.

TI's DLP business employs roughly 1,000 people in the Dallas area. The technology is now moving beyond projectors, television and cinema, into applications such as 3-D medical imaging—for example, allowing improved imaging of organs and better treatments for targeting tumors.

The current and potential success of DMD technology illustrates the importance of federal investment in basic research to innovation.

Congratulations to Dr. Hornbeck on his induction into the NAE. I am proud to highlight his work as an example of the importance of the engineering profession to the economy of Texas and the United States.

#### CONGRATULATING LACKAWANNA COUNTY COMMISSIONER ROBERT C. CORDARO, THE 2007 HONOREE OF THE LACKAWANNA COUNTY COLUMBUS DAY ASSOCIATION

#### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Robert C. Cordaro, Commissioner of Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, who was named "Man of the Year" by the Lackawanna County Columbus Day Association.

Mr. Cordaro is a 1979 graduate of Dunmore High School where he was a member of the National Honor Society, senior class president and a first team all league football player where he held the position of linebacker.

He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Rochester in 1983 with a bachelor's degree in history. At the University of Rochester, he was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. He also was a member of the first team academic All-America Football Team where he held the position of linebacker.

In 1986, Mr. Cordaro graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law.

Mr. Cordaro went on to work for United States Congressman Charles F. Dougherty, Republican, of Philadelphia, before becoming a practicing attorney.

He was a founder of Landmark Community Bank where he served as a member of its board of directors.

Mr. Cordaro is a partner in Cord Realty, the owner and manager of a diversified real estate portfolio.

Mr. Cordaro was elected to the Lackawanna County Board of Commissioners in 2000 and

was re-elected in 2004 after which he was named to the chairmanship of that board.

In 2006, Lackawanna County was the recipient of the National Award for County Arts Leadership, a first for Pennsylvania counties due to a program established in part by Mr. Cordaro.

According to Americans for the Arts, an innovative Education and Culture fee was created to encourage and support artistic endeavors within Lackawanna County, revenues from which are used to fund regional arts assets as well as arts and education activities.

The Lackawanna County Commissioners dedicated funds from this revenue source to support the Scranton Cultural Center, the Everhart Museum and the Lackawanna County Library System. "We believe that fostering arts and cultural activities is critical to our area's revitalization and growth," said Mr. Cordaro.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Commissioner Cordaro. His commitment to his community is reflected in the fact that he has been chosen for this distinguished award.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE HEALTHY WORKFORCE ACT OF 2007

#### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, it is no secret that health care costs in the United States are sharply increasing. Nor is it any longer a surprise to hear that the rate of chronic illnesses and diseases has been on the rise. Left unabated, the continuing rise in both preventable illnesses and health care costs will put even more pressure on our already fragile health care system and threatens to bankrupt our Federal budget. These trends also have alarming implications for employers, both directly in terms of costs for employer-provided health care plans and indirectly through higher rates of absenteeism.

With all of these concerns in mind, I rise today to introduce the Healthy Workforce Act of 2007. In so doing, I am pleased to be joined by my colleague from California, Representative MARY BONO. I would also like to thank Senator HARKIN, who is truly a leader on preventive health care issues, and who is the original sponsor of this legislation in the Senate.

The Healthy Workforce Act of 2007 provides a tax credit to businesses that offer comprehensive wellness programs to their employees, thereby promoting prevention of high cost chronic diseases. This tax credit will encourage business to raise health awareness through health education and health risk assessments. It will promote a supportive environment to encourage employee participation in workplace wellness programs, through offering meaningful incentive to participating employees, such as a reduction in health insurance premiums. And it will encourage employees to lead a healthy lifestyle through counseling, seminars or on-line programs. Keeping workers healthy in the first place can go a long way to reducing the growing health care costs to employers.

And Madam Speaker, these increasing costs are significant to employers. Average

employer medical costs increased 72 percent between 2000 and 2006. Some companies report spending more than 50 percent of their profits to cover these expenses. Employers are also increasingly bearing costs of diet-related chronic disease and obesity. For example, obesity-related health conditions cost employers approximately \$33 billion in health care and other indirect costs. However, proactive treatment would significantly reduce costs. The proactive treatment of hypertension costs about \$1,000 per year, whereas treatment for a heart attack costs a minimum of \$50,000, not including the costs which result from the time off and loss of productivity.

Employer spending on health promotion and chronic disease prevention is a good investment in our future. And this legislation targets primarily smaller and mid-sized companies who would otherwise have difficulty making the initial investment needed to support such programs. Workplace wellness programs are economical, averaging \$30 to \$200 per employee and studies have reported a proven rate of return on investment within 12 to 18 months, ranging from \$2 to \$10 for each dollar invested.

Adaptable lifestyle factors such as smoking, sedentary lifestyle, poor nutrition, unmanaged stress, and obesity account for approximately half of premature deaths in the United States. Spending on chronic diseases related to lifestyle and other preventable diseases accounts for an estimated 75 percent of total healthcare spending and it is estimated that by 2014 our country's total health care expenditures will be \$3.6 trillion.

Clearly we cannot continue down this path. We must shift the focus of our nation's health care system to prevention and wellness programs. In so doing, we can reduce health care costs, improve health, improve quality of life, and boost productivity. Unfortunately, a very small percentage of health care spending is devoted to health promotion. The national investment in prevention is currently estimated to be less than 5 percent of annual health care costs. Our Nation needs a new approach to healthcare—one that puts prevention front and center.

The Healthy Workforce Act is one piece of the larger reform needed to our Nation's health care system. But it is a critical piece. By providing incentives for America's businesses to provide wellness programs for employees, they and their employees can focus on chronic disease prevention and health promotion, reduce health care costs, boost productivity, and improve the health and quality of life of working Americans.

I urge my colleagues to join me in seeking a more effective approach to preventing chronic diseases and providing incentives for employers and employees facing rising health care costs by cosponsoring the Healthy Workforce Act.

#### IN MEMORY OF BILL WIRTZ

#### HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and memory of a constituent and one of the most beloved people in the Chicagoland

area—Bill Wirtz. Last week, Mr. Wirtz passed after a battle with cancer at the age of 77.

Most knew him as the president of the Chicago Blackhawks, where he worked for the last 41 years. However, his fame in sporting circles was only surpassed by his infinite kindness and generosity. Through his direction, the Chicago Blackhawks Charities donated more than \$7.5 million since 1993 to various organizations such as the Boys and Girls Clubs. He also was renowned for his compassion toward his employees, treating them like members of his family.

The crowds at his visitation and funeral demonstrated the high regard that thousands had for Mr. Wirtz and his accomplishments.

I know I speak for the entire district when I send my deepest sympathies to his wife Alice, sons Rocky and Peter, daughters Gail, Karey and Alyson and his seven grandchildren. His memory will live on through the institutions he helped create and those whose lives he touched. It is because of this that his passion and dedication will never be forgotten.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately yesterday, October 1, 2007, I was unable to cast my votes on H. Con. Res. 185, H.R. 2276, and H.R. 3325.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 924 on suspending the rules and passing H. Con. Res. 185, Commending the 1st Brigade Combat Team/34th Infantry Division of the Minnesota National Guard, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 925 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 2276, the Corporal Christopher E. Esckelson Post Office Building Designation, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 926 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 3325, the Corporal Stephen R. Bixler Post Office Designation, I would have voted "aye."

#### CELEBRATING PHILADELPHIA ENGINE COMPANY 52'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Philadelphia Fire Department's Engine Company 52 on celebrating its 100th anniversary. Since 1907, a dedicated unit of firefighters has served the Wissinoming community in the lower Northeast section of Philadelphia from this same location. I am honored to represent them in Congress.

In Philadelphia 271 years ago, Benjamin Franklin established the first Fire Department in America. He noted that once a fire was "cried out, active community members would with one mind apply themselves with all vigilance and resolution . . . to the hard work of

conquering the increasing fire." From this beginning, he developed societies of firefighters to attend to all fires in their neighborhoods. These companies formed the basis of the firefighting and fire prevention efforts of our city's current Fire Department.

Engine Company 52, originally known as the Wissinoming Fire Company, was dedicated to serving the community along a tributary of the Delaware River. Originally housed in a large red brick two-story building at Jackson and Van Kirk Streets, the top floor of the fire company was the home of the neighborhood school. Behind the building was a stable for the horses that pulled the firefighting equipment and a tower where fire hoses were hung to drain and dry. As the community grew, so did the fire company still known as "The Fifty-Two's." In 1951, the city built a new firehouse on the site. Today, Engine 52 is known as "Pipeline 52" because of its large capacity equipment used to supply water to other companies when major fires occur; in more recent years "Medic 32", an Emergency Medical Service unit has been added.

Today, the "Fifty-TooZ"—as they call themselves—serve a residential and business community, protecting the lives of those who live and work in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District. As in the days of Benjamin Franklin, they "apply themselves with all vigilance and resolution," as well as dedication and courage, to protect their community.

Madam Speaker, once again I congratulate all of the members of Engine Company 52 for their service, dedication and sacrifice. I look forward to continuing our work together and ensuring another 100 years of success, safety and security.

#### STABILITY FOR SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

#### HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, the issue of stability in southeastern Europe is once again high on the world's agenda. In December, issues concerning the status of Kosovo will again come to the fore. Regional stability is tied closely, but not inextricably, to these issues. As we approach the winter months, it is important that our southeastern European friends be strong internally so that they can be producers of stability and not consumers of it.

Our friend, the Republic of Macedonia, is one such producer of stability. Time and again, it has proved itself a great friend and ally of the United States of America. Time and again, it has proven itself a friend to neighboring states. Time and again, it has stepped up to the plate and provided support to the United States in the War on Terrorism by providing soldiers to serve alongside our own troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. Time and again, it has worked with and voted with the United States on important resolutions in the United Nations.

Unfortunately, our friend Greece has not been so supportive of the Republic of Macedonia. In 1993 and again in 1995, Greece imposed economic sanctions on Macedonia because Greece claims, entirely and exclusively, the word "Macedonia." Despite the fact

that Macedonia changed its flag and constitution to allay Greece's fears, today the Hellenic Republic continues to object to countries and international institutions recognizing the Republic of Macedonia by its constitutional name.

Without going into great detail on this subject, it is important to note that the Macedonians do not claim exclusivity over the word "Macedonia" and do not in fact object to Greece using it in any way it sees fit.

There are now 118 countries around the world recognizing the Republic of Macedonia by its rightful and constitutional name, including Russia, China and, I am proud to say, the United States of America. Just last month, Canada became the latest country to recognize the Republic of Macedonia. We did the right thing when we recognized the Republic of Macedonia in November 2004, and I am grateful for the President's leadership in righting a historic wrong.

This past summer, the now former Greek Ambassador to Macedonia was sacked by her own government for admitting that Greece should agree to a double-name formula, something the Macedonians have been arguing for since Greece first raised objections.

The relationship between Macedonian and Greek citizens could not be stronger. Greek businessmen conduct a large amount of business in Macedonia and have no problem with the name. In September, the Republic of Macedonia waived the requirement for Greeks to bring their passports when they come to visit Macedonia. Today, Greeks simply need an identity card. Macedonians in turn spend much of their vacation time in Greece during the summer months. The two countries cooperate on many other issues and enjoy good relations.

It is time for our Greek friends to allow the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia to enjoy their sovereign right to determine the name of their own country. It is time for Greece to drop its objections in the political arena, and to leave to the historians debates about Alexander the Great and the ancient Macedonians.

We live in the here and the now, and it is time to move forward. Our Greek friends enjoy pointing out their contributions to modern-day democracy and for that we thank them. Let them now contribute in their longstanding tradition of supporting democratic values by allowing the people of the Republic of Macedonia to call themselves by what they have always called themselves and by dropping their objections to a country that only desires friendship and has proven itself as a great friend and ally.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE 50TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF ALTHEA GIBSON BECOMING THE FIRST PERSON OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ANCESTRY TO WIN THE U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP AND WIMBLEDON

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to honor the 50th anniversary of Ms. Althea Gibson becoming the first African American to win the

U.S. Championship and Wimbledon. Her accomplishments signified a change in our Nation's climate in which racial discrimination was challenged on the tennis court and in the Supreme Court. The 50th anniversary of Althea Gibson's victory at the U.S. Championship and Wimbledon is worthy of congressional recognition, and I urge my colleagues to join me in commemorating an extraordinary woman, and an extraordinary chapter in U.S. history.

The eldest daughter of sharecroppers who moved from South Carolina to Harlem during the Depression, Althea Gibson was born on August 25, 1927 in Silver, South Carolina. She had one primary desire: to be somebody. Thirty years later, Queen Elizabeth II presented her with the Championship trophy at Wimbledon, and Vice President Richard Nixon presented Althea Gibson with the United States Championship trophy at Forest Hills. By the end of her career, she won nearly 100 awards for tennis, and defeated men and women on nearly every continent in a sport that was historically restricted from people of her race and class. Althea Gibson was accurate when she declared that she had come "a long way from being forced to sit in the colored section of the bus." In an era of gender and racial discrimination, this African American woman was an international celebrity and a symbol of excellence and determination in the early years of the Civil Rights Movement.

Madam Speaker, Althea Gibson defied prejudiced conceptions of female and African American athletes from the time she played racket ball in the streets of Harlem until the time she competed in the world's most prestigious competitions. Her undeniable talent not only moved people across lines of race and class to support Gibson in her relentless desire to succeed, but also moved people to change the rules that maintained systems of inequality. In 1949, she attended my alma mater, Florida A&M University, on a full athletic scholarship due to the guidance and support of a New York doctor and his wife. Gibson received what the vast majority of African American women could not: an education. As white and black high profile athletes endorsed Gibson, people began to question if integration was an inevitable occurrence that would benefit tennis as it had benefited basketball, football, baseball. On August 28, 1950, the face and rules of tennis changed, and Althea Gibson became the first African American to compete at the National Open.

Madam Speaker, Althea Gibson's great triumphs did not come without great peril and adversity. Although she was hailed as the Queen of Tennis, racial prejudice excluded her from lodging in the hotels that surrounded the arenas where she competed and defended her crown. Refusing to let prejudice, poverty, or consistent threats against her life compromise her drive to succeed, Gibson fought prejudice when she won on tennis courts that were previously segregated. An actress, musician, teacher and athlete, Althea Gibson was the quintessential Renaissance woman who refused to compromise her dignity and the dignity of her people on or off the court.

Althea Gibson continued to be a woman of firsts in the years that followed her tennis career. During the same year as the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Althea Gibson became the first African American member of the Ladies Professional Golf Association. In

1971 Althea Gibson was the first African American to be inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame—the only African American woman of the 200 athletes who have received this honor in its 52 year history. Twenty years later, Althea Gibson became the first woman to receive the Theodore Roosevelt Award in 1991, the highest honor awarded by the National Collegiate Athletic Association for "symbolizing the best qualities of competitive excellence and good sportsmanship, and for her significant contribution to expanding opportunities for women and minorities through sports."

Madam Speaker, 4 years after her death, and 50 years after her win at the U.S. Championship and Wimbledon, Althea Gibson continues to be a universal example of strength and excellence. The Althea Gibson Foundation was established to support underprivileged youth in their drive to succeed in golf, tennis, and the classroom, and to ensure that Althea Gibson's legacy of excellence, tenacity, and dedication lives on. Her life affirms what many of us already know: Great athletes have the ability to unify and inspire beyond the realm of sports.

Althea Gibson famously said "In the field of sports you are more or less accepted for what you do rather than what you are." In a world plagued by poverty, segregation and racial prejudice, Althea Gibson saw sports as the epitome of what our country should be—a true meritocracy. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this resolution to preserve the memory of Althea Gibson and other athletes who were pioneers in their time and inspirations for future generations.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I unfortunately missed recorded votes on the House floor on Monday, October 1, 2007.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 924 (Motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Con. Res. 185), "yea" on rollcall vote No. 925 (Motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2276), and "yea" on rollcall vote No. 926 (Motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3325).

#### FLOOD INSURANCE REFORM AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 27, 2007*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3121) to restore the financial solvency of the national flood insurance program and to provide for such program to make available multiperil coverage for damage resulting from windstorms and floods, and for other purposes:

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Chairman, floods are amongst the most frequent and costly national

disasters in terms of human hardship and economic loss. In fact, 75 percent of Federal disaster declarations are related to flooding.

Before I discuss the merits of the legislation, I would like to talk briefly about the process that is being considered. We are debating a huge expansion of an already struggling existing Federal program, and yet we have not been able to have our amendments out on the floor to have an open and frank discussion about this.

I would like to accept the chairman's offer to continue to work on the amendments that were not allowed to be offered, and I hope that we can see democracy being served by letting everybody's voice be heard.

In 1968, Congress established the National Flood Insurance Program, NFIP. The program is a partnership between the Federal Government and participating communities. If a community adopts and enforces a floodplain management ordinance to reduce future flood risk to new construction, the Federal Government will make flood insurance available to that community. Today, NFIP is the largest single-line property insurer in the Nation, serving nearly 20,000 communities and providing flood insurance coverage for 5.4 million consumers.

Mr. Chairman, recent events have underscored the need to reform and modernize certain aspects of the program. While the NFIP is designed to be actuarially sound, it does not collect sufficient premiums to build up reserves for unexpected disasters. Due to the claims resulting from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the NFIP was forced to borrow \$7.6 billion from the Treasury, an amount it estimates it will never be able to repay. Consequently, NFIP sits on the GAO's High-Risk Programs list, which recommends increased congressional oversight. Additionally, the 2005 storms shed light on the problem of outdated flood maps, resulting in many homeowners in the gulf region being unaware that their homes were located in floodplains.

To address these and other concerns in 2006, the House overwhelmingly passed flood insurance reform legislation. Earlier this year, Chairman FRANK and Representative JUDY BIGGERT introduced legislation identical to that bipartisan bill. That bill includes many reforms, including the phasing in of actuarial rates, but unfortunately, the flood insurance bill that the majority chose to move out of the Financial Services Committee was amended to incorporate legislation offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) which expands the NFIP to include coverage for wind events.

Mr. Chairman, no Member of this House was more personally affected by the 2005 hurricanes than Congressman TAYLOR. I do not, and no one questions his sincerity or his commitment to assisting those who have lost everything they owned in these storms. While I share his concern over the rising costs and outright unavailability of homeowners' wind coverage in some areas, I have three principal objections to linking wind insurance to the reform of the National Flood Insurance Program.

First, expanding the program increases liabilities for taxpayers while decreasing options for customers or consumers. Properties located along the eastern seaboard and gulf coast represent \$19 trillion of insured value. Shifting the risk on even a portion of these properties to the troubled NFIP could expose taxpayers to massive losses. The fact is that insurance will choose not to engage a compet-

itor that does not pay taxes, has subsidized borrowing costs, and is not required to build a reserve surplus and is protected from most lawsuits, State regulation and enforcement.

Second, adding wind coverage to the NFIP will exacerbate the program's well-documented administrative problems. Both the Department of Homeland Security and GAO have criticized the NFIP for being understaffed, not having adequate flood maps and not collecting sufficient information on wind payments when claims were submitted for flood damage. Expanding the portfolio further before much-needed reforms are in place is premature.

Third, no consensus yet exists about the necessity or desirability of creating a Federal wind insurance program. In testimony before our committee, representatives of flood management groups, the insurance industry, environmental organizations, Treasury and FEMA all expressed agreement that a comprehensive study of the proposed wind insurance mandate should first be commissioned to provide Congress with a better understanding of the possible implications this expansion could have for consumers, NFIP and the market.

Mr. Chairman, we must not let the desire to meet every perceived problem with a new Government program drive us towards premature actions that yield unwanted consequences. The NFIP's mission should not be expanded, exposing taxpayers to massive new risks, until reforms are in place and adequate study has been conducted.

In addition to the above reservations, I have serious concerns with the effect the addition of wind coverage will have on communities that are now relying on NFIP. This program is already financially unstable, yet we are about to add \$19 trillion of risk. Despite this fiscal instability, States like West Virginia, that I represent, will still rely on the program to provide assistance in the case of serious flooding. Thankfully, there have not been major problems this year, but since I was elected to Congress in 2000, there have been nine federally declared flooding disasters in West Virginia. In 2001 alone, FEMA provided \$17 million in assistance to my State, and between 2004 and 2006 the National Flood Insurance Program received and paid more than \$30 million in claims from West Virginia flood victims.

There are serious needs in West Virginia and across the Nation for the flood insurance program. We should be modernizing NFIP so it can become financially stable, not jeopardizing its existence by exposing it—and our taxpayers—to trillions of dollars of liability.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LAS VEGAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. The Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce has been serving the Las Vegas community as the ultimate business resource in Clark County since its inception in 1911. Their mission to strengthen, enhance and protect businesses, alongside their values of leadership, excellence, integrity, and innovation work together to convey their vision to be an advocate for the State of Nevada.

The Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce is the largest, most influential business organization in the state of Nevada and the third-largest local Chamber of Commerce in the United States. Its membership exceeds 6,700 members. 85 percent of these are small business owners with 25 or fewer employees.

The Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce is an organization of business leaders who work to improve their community and the area's business climate. They are governed by a volunteer board of trustees, and the chamber thrives off of the support and involvement of its members which is open to all businesses. The Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce provides for its members vast benefits such as networking opportunities, political advocacy, and heightened credibility to name a few. The Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce works diligently for its members by promoting a strong local community, providing opportunities for their businesses to grow, and enhancing commerce through community stewardship.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. I would personally like to thank all of those participating for taking time out of their lives in order to come to Washington, DC and meet with Congressional Leadership. The dedication and service of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce should set an example for all businesses, and members of the community alike. I applaud all of their efforts and look forward to watching their future accomplishments.

#### IN HONOR OF BRANDON AND SPENCER WHALE

#### HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brandon and Spencer Whale, brothers from Ross Township, Pennsylvania. I met these two young men when they visited my office on behalf of the American Heart Association and was impressed to discover that, before the age of 10, they had both created inventions to improve the lives of hospital patients.

At only the age of 8, Brandon developed a medical device that is used to this day. Brandon made improvements to an electrode bracelet used to transmit a patient's vital heart data to the hospital from the patient's home. The standard bracelet was too big for his mother's small wrists, so Brandon discovered a way to modify the bracelet for different wrist sizes and enhance its conductivity.

Brandon's younger brother, Spencer, created a device to secure IV drip strands to children's toy cars. Spencer, at the age of 6, got the idea after watching parents push IV poles behind their kids while they raced through the hospital's play rooms in toy cars. Spencer found a way for the toy cars to bear the weight of the medical equipment and, as a result, all toy cars at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh are now equipped with Spencer's IV holders.

Spencer and Brandon have been inducted into the National Gallery for Young Inventors. At the time of their induction they were the two youngest inventors ever inducted into the National Gallery for Young Inventors. They serve



as examples for children everywhere that anyone, no matter what age, can make a difference. I thank Brandon and Spencer for their contributions to the lives of hospital patients, and I wish them all the best in the years to come.

STATEMENT ON THE NAZI WAR  
CRIMES AND JAPANESE IMPERIAL  
GOVERNMENT RECORDS  
INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP  
FINAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON  
THE UNITED STATES KNOWLEDGE  
OF NAZI WAR CRIMES

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, on Friday, September 28th the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group presented to Congress its final report on the United States' knowledge of Nazi war crimes.

First, I want to thank the Archivist, Mr. Allen Weinstein, for serving as the chair of the Interagency Working Group. I would also like to thank his staff at the Archives for all of their hard work on this project throughout the years.

I am also grateful to the IWG's public members—Tom Baer, Richard Ben-Veniste and former Congresswoman Liz Holtzman. They have all performed a great service for our Nation. They undertook a 7-year, nearly \$30 million, government-wide effort to locate, declassify, and make publicly available U.S. records of Nazi and Japanese war crimes. We now have their final report.

This project really was an example of government working well. So many different agencies and branches came together to work on it. I want to thank all of the government agencies—the FBI, CIA, Defense Department, Treasury Department, and others. Without their help, we wouldn't have a report in hand. This part of the process wasn't always easy going—this I realize—but so many staff members throughout all of these important agencies worked hard on this project. It would be impossible to name them all, but they all deserve our thanks.

I—and indeed the whole world—was shocked to discover that Kurt Waldheim, one-time U.N. Secretary General, was a Nazi. The critical question that followed was how much information did the U.S. Government have about Waldheim's actions during the war and before he became head of the U.N.? And why wouldn't they reveal it? I introduced the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act back in 1994 to get to the bottom of important questions like these. From the start, there was great opposition to the bill from the intelligence community. But in 1996 we were able to pass a Sense of Congress in support of the bill. And, with the help of former Senator DeWine and former Congressman Horn, the bill finally passed in 1998. Former counsel to Mr. DeWine, Louis DuPart also deserves credit and thanks for helping to write the bill that finally passed. Peter Levitas, another DeWine staffer, deserves thanks for helping to shepherd the bill through its different iterations.

In 2005, we expanded the War Crimes Disclosure Act to cover the Japanese crime docu-

ments, and extended it an additional 2 years to give the IWG more time to do its work. As a result of it, more than 8 million pages of government documents have been declassified and opened to the public.

The declassified records include the entirety of the operational files of the Office of Strategic Services—the predecessor agency of the CIA—and more than 163,000 pages of CIA materials of a type never before opened to the public.

One of the IWG's aims was to uncover documentation that would shed light on the extent to which the U.S. Government had knowingly used and protected Nazi and Japanese war criminals for intelligence purposes. In fact, the IWG found that there was a closer relationship between the U.S. Government and war criminals than previously known. This revelation, while difficult to accept, is crucial to the understanding of our Nation's history.

Researchers, private citizens, in fact anyone who is interested, are now able to comb through the documents that will bring us closer to the truth of the Holocaust. Moreover, as the Archivist of the United States, the Honorable Allen Weinstein explained when presenting to Congress IWG's final report, "Perhaps more important even than the declassified records, this effort stands as a lasting testimony to the fact that declassifying significant documents such as these will not impede the operations of government. Indeed, the work of the IWG should set a new standard for declassification."

In today's world, our government faces enormous pressure—not only from our own agencies but also from foreign intelligence agencies—to keep all records out of the public realm. In the end, disclosure of these files and records is better for our intelligence agencies and better for history.

Madam Speaker, the best chapters of our history provide a model for great democracy and leadership. Our worst chapters show us the dark consequences of apathy and intolerance.

A TRIBUTE TO DANIEL  
"PANADERO" OCHOA

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the most successful participants in a U.S. sponsored program for former gang members, who was brutally murdered in the prime of his life. On September 17 in Guatemala City, Daniel de Jesus Ochoa Vasquez was shopping with his wife when unknown assailants came from behind and shot him in the head, killing him instantly.

Five years ago, Daniel Ochoa sought refuge at a home for at-risk youth run by the Alliance for the Prevention of Crime, an initiative begun with support from the U.S. Agency for International Development, USAID. He left his gang, and soon graduated to teaching other at-risk youth the baking skills he had learned there, thus gaining the nickname "Panadero," or "Baker". Like many of the estimated 14,000 youths involved in gangs in Guatemala, Daniel Ochoa grew up in poverty, and lacked family support and educational or economic opportu-

nities. He soon turned to gangs for social support, a source of livelihood, and protection. His father abandoned his family when his mother was pregnant with their third child; he grew up in a neighborhood without potable water or electricity; dropped out of school after the fourth grade to work full time as a bricklayer's assistant at age 11. By age 13 he joined the M18 gang. In the 5 years he spent in the gang, he landed in prison 12 times, turning 18 in a jail cell. He explained that his last time in jail scared him enough that he decided to leave the gang. Many gang members who decide to leave their past life behind take refuge in a church; Daniel left on his own accord, at considerable risk to himself.

Last year Daniel was selected as 1 of the 10 members of the "Desafio 10: Paz para los Ex" ("Challenge 10: Peace for Ex Gang Members") reality TV show, a program through which USAID and the Guatemalan private sector helped former gang members find new ways to make a living. With ongoing support from USAID's Youth Alliance program, "Panadero" established and ran a successful shoe repair and shine business in which he took great pride. He had gone back to school and planned to attend college with the money he earned from his shop. He impressed many people with his honesty, hard work, and courage. Daniel provided authentic testimony that it is possible for a young man to turn his life around if he has the will and is given an opportunity. He gladly shared his story with such visitors in the hope that other youths would continue to be given such opportunities for a new life, and that USAID and other donor agencies would continue to reach out to at-risk youth. As one of those who worked with him said, "Through his example 'Panadero' has confirmed the value of working with youths who have abandoned gangs and decided to take a new path in life."

Daniel's finest hour was his trip last May to Washington to address a group of business leaders and policymakers, including Guatemala's Vice President Eduardo Stein, at the Guatemalan Embassy. With the help of the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala, Daniel obtained a last minute Department of Homeland Security waiver to allow him a visa to travel. Daniel's talk motivated the Guatemalan Embassy to begin to raise funds for a tattoo removal project. Daniel may have been killed because he was mistaken for a gang member: a possibility, because of the tattoos on his hands and neck, which he had hoped to have removed.

Daniel once said that he did not want to be just "a former gang member," and he achieved that goal. A week before his death, Daniel volunteered as an election observer with Mirador Electoral, a Guatemalan civic coalition that monitors elections. Mirador Electoral has demanded an investigation into his death. He showed that an "ex" can be an active as well as law-abiding citizen. He sought a better life not just for himself and his family, but also for Guatemala. Daniel Ochoa was not only a rehabilitated ex-gang member; he was a rehabilitated human being.



HONORING THE CONTRIBUTION OF  
BLACK PIONEER ALTHEA GIBSON

## HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a story from the New York CARIB News of September 18, 2007 entitled, "Black Pioneer Althea Gibson".

This article highlights the accomplishments of Althea Gibson, the admirable tennis player who in spite of adversity reached great success, leaving a great legacy to the sport. Ms. Gibson became the first African American—male or female—to win the U.S. National Championships, which until then was a segregated tournament and she made history by not only breaking the color barriers but by winning the Grand Slam.

Ms. Gibson continued to leave her mark in tennis by winning the 1956 French Open, again, becoming the first black woman to win the Grand Slam event. Following those enormous achievements she continued to excel in important international tennis tournaments such as Wimbledon and the U.S. Championships.

In recognition of her incredible contribution to the sport of tennis and to society, the U.S. Tennis Association hosted a tribute to her life at the U.S. Open in New York in late August. The champion died in 2003 but continues to be admired and to be an inspiration to women throughout the world.

I applaud Ms. Althea Gibson for her great contribution to the sport of tennis and for the undeniable strength she endured to excel in a time when she was denied opportunity because of the color of her skin.

BLACK PIONEER ALTHEA GIBSON

(By Roy S. Johnson)

Fifty years ago, in the late summer of 1957, Althea Gibson made history as she captured the U.S. National Championships title on the grass courts of Forest Hills. With that win, the 30-year-old Gibson became the first African American—male or female—to win that most prestigious Grand Slam tennis tournament crown.

Just three years after the great Jackie Robinson had broken the color barrier in baseball, Gibson broke tennis' color barrier when she played in the 1950 U.S. Championships. Until then, tennis had been a segregated sport, with Blacks playing on their own tour—similar to the Negro Baseball Leagues—under the auspices of the American Tennis Association. Her participation at Forest Hills that year was facilitated, in part, by Alice Marble, one of the top players of that era, who wrote an editorial in a national magazine calling for the sport to allow her to compete.

That she did. Tall and lean, Gibson's look and her game resembled that of the elder Williams sister.

"Very graceful, very smooth," says former tennis star, now U.S. Fed Cup captain Zina Garrison, who befriended Gibson in the legend's later years and became a confidante. "She glided around the court. When you look at Venus [Williams], Althea was very much like her."

Six years after her Grand Slam debut, well before the tide of civil rights began to rise throughout America, Gibson made history once again—this time in magnificent fashion—by winning the 1956 French Open to become the first Black to win a Grand Slam

event. The next year, she won Wimbledon and the U.S. Championships, then successfully defended both titles the following year. Gibson teamed with Angela Buxton, a Jewish player from Briton, to win the 1956 doubles championships at the French and Wimbledon. Both women experienced discrimination by their fellow players, but after their triumph at the All-England tennis club, a British newspaper touted: "Minorities win."

All told, Gibson, the daughter of South Carolina sharecroppers, won five Grand Slam singles titles and six Grand Slam doubles crowns, but her impact on tennis—and society—cannot be measured in mere trophy counts. She was a trailblazer of remarkable heart and courage, marking a path for those who would follow her, carrying herself with that special grace and dignity known only to true champions.

"Althea made tennis a better place, by opening doors and opening minds," said USTA president and chairman Jane Brown Grimes. "For that, all of us owe Althea Gibson a debt of gratitude."

In recognition of Gibson's myriad contributions to the sport of tennis and to society at large, the U.S. Tennis Association this year hosted a very special tribute to the late champion, who passed away in 2003 following a long illness. On an extraordinary evening of history and emotion, African-American women who are pioneers in their own fields, and the elite from the world of tennis, gathered to honor and celebrate one of their own. Call her tennis's own Jackie Robinson.

The event, entitled "Breaking Barriers," was held on the opening night, Aug. 27 of the 2007 U.S. Open at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Queens, NY. It commemorated the 50th anniversary of Gibson's pioneering triumph at the 1957 U.S. National Championships (now known as the U.S. Open), and also provided a stage for Gibson's induction into the prestigious U.S. Open Court of Champions. But the evening proved to be so much more—an acknowledgement of the over-sight of having never before recognized Gibson as a barrier-breaking pioneer, and a unique first-time celebration of the historic firsts achieved by other prominent African-American women.

Nearly two dozen Black women pioneers attended the tribute, including Olympians Jackie Joyner-Kersey (first Black to win back-to-back Olympic gold medals in the Heptathlon) and Dr. Debi Thomas (first Black Winter Olympics medal winner), astronaut Dr. Mae Jemison (the first Black female astronaut), gospel singer Yolanda Adams (first Black female to win the Contemporary/Inspirational Artist award at American Music Awards) and Ambassador Carol Moseley-Braun (first Black female U.S. Senator).

Billie Jean King, whose own pioneering efforts on behalf of female athletes were celebrated at this venue last year, was part of the tribute, as was New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Rachel Robinson, Jackie Robinson's widow. Aretha Franklin, the first Black woman inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, performed at the tribute.

Other trailblazing Black women attending were former poet laureate Nikki Giovanni (the first Black woman to receive the Rosa Parks Woman of Courage award), former Washington, D.C., mayor Sharon Pratt (first to be elected mayor of a major U.S. city), actress Phylicia Rashad (first to win a Tony for best performance in a play), Essence chairwoman Susan L. Taylor (first recipient of the Henry Johnson Fisher award), and businesswoman Sheila Crump Johnson (first to have a stake in three professional sports franchises).

"Althea Gibson dreamed the impossible and made it possible," said Johnson, who

was a BET founder. "She was one of the first African-American women in sports to say, 'Why not me?' She empowered generations [of Black women] to believe in themselves, emboldened us to achieve and attain the unattainable. Her drive, spirit and passion continue to set an example for us today."

"I will always be grateful to her for having the strength and the courage to triumph in extreme adversity," said Venus Williams, a six-time Grand Slam singles champion, who also participated in the tribute. "Her accomplishments set the stage for my success, and through players like me, Serena and many others to come, her legacy will live on."

REMEMBRANCE OF WALT  
CROWLEY

## HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, Seattle recently lost a prominent and much loved citizen, Walt Crowley. I would like to insert in the RECORD a statement on his passing from HistoryLink, an impressive organization Walt helped to found.

## REMEMBERING WALT

Walt Crowley, visionary cofounder of HistoryLink.org, passed away on September 21, 2007. Looking back at the rich tapestry of his life and work, one sees that it would take an encyclopedia to document how much of an effect he had upon the city of Seattle and on the state of Washington. Fortunately—and thanks to his efforts—we can do that here at HistoryLink.org, the Online Encyclopedia of Washington State History.

Walt moved to Seattle at the age of 14, when Boeing hired his father. Many of the friends and colleagues who knew him the longest probably met him during his days at the Helix, Seattle's first underground newspaper, for which Walt wrote, cartooned, edited, and even sold copies of out on the street. Whether it was at a social gathering, during a street march, on the campaign trail, or even in the midst of riots, Walt touched the lives of many people, and made numerous friendships that lasted for decades.

Walt's passion for civic activism led to a career in city politics. During a sit-in protest at Seattle City Hall, Mayor Wes Uhlman was so impressed with the young man's wit and political savvy that he hired him. Over the next few years, Walt worked in various city departments, most notably as deputy director of the Office of Policy and Planning, where he often advocated for historic preservation. His love for Seattle grew, based on his awareness of its past.

## THE WRITE STUFF

His skills as a writer opened up new vistas in his career when he formed Crowley Associates Inc. along with Marie McCaffrey, whom he would later marry. The two collaborated on books about the Seattle Aquarium and Pioneer Square, and provided writing and advertising services to numerous political campaigns, voter initiatives, and labor unions. Walt also wrote articles for the Seattle Weekly and was brought further into the public eye when he was hired to conduct bi-weekly "Point-Counterpoint" debates with conservative activist John Carlson on KIRO-TV News.

But it was the history muse that inspired Walt's greatest creative output. His introduction to historical research came when he was hired to write a history of the Rainier Club. He followed this with books about Seattle University, Metro Transit, and Group

Health Cooperative, as well as two of his proudest accomplishments, *Rites of Passage: A Memoir of the Sixties* in Seattle and *The National Trust Guide: Seattle*.

In 1997, he and local historian Paul Dorpat, a dear friend and colleague from their days together at the Helix, tossed around the idea of publishing an encyclopedia of King County history. A book of this size and scope had not been published since Clarence Bagley's tome, written more than 70 years before. Worried that such a venture might prove to be too unwieldy, Walt's wife, Marie, suggested that an online encyclopedia would be a more suitable way to keep and maintain the historical record. Work soon began, and the rest is history . . . or shall we say, HistoryLink.

#### MAKING HISTORY

When HistoryLink launched in 1998, it was the first encyclopedia of community history created expressly for the Internet—an accomplishment that made Walt exceedingly proud. But being the first meant blazing trails where no historians had gone before, not only in designing and organizing the online encyclopedia, but also in competing for funding in a dot-com world. Walt always referred to our efforts as "venture socialism."

Helped along by a hand-picked staff—many of whom still write, edit, and contribute to the site—as well as by a topnotch board of trustees, HistoryLink.org grew to become a success, and in 2003 expanded its coverage statewide. Today it receives more than four million hits a month. It is read by students, teachers, journalists, genealogists, history buffs, and anybody who wants to know more about the people and events that shaped Washington's growth and development.

Besides penning some of HistoryLink's books, Walt wrote a large number of essays and editorials on topics that appealed to his interests, including state politics, political shifts, mayoral transitions, municipal ownership, civil violence, Seattle's neighborhoods, streetcars, monorails, aviation, the Space Needle, and even flying saucers. With such a wealth of Walt's words and knowledge and insight contained in our site, we here at HistoryLink.org take comfort in the fact that as we continue to grow and expand our content, we will never lose his voice—even though we have lost a colleague, a mentor, and most of all, our friend.

#### COMMENDING THE 1ST BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM/34TH INFANTRY DIVISION OF THE MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 1, 2007*

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today I rise strong support of H. Con. Res. 185. I join the gentleman from Minnesota, Mr. WALZ in offering this resolution. Our entire State joins together in welcoming home the 2,600 members of the Minnesota National Guard's 1st Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division who recently returned from Iraq.

During the 22-month deployment of the 1/34th BCT, these courageous citizen soldiers served Minnesota and our Nation with honor and dignity. Their service frequently put them in harm's way, and we are grateful for their safe return to their families. Since the war in Iraq began our friends, families and neighbors

who serve in the National Guard and Reserves have seen their dual roles as citizen soldiers expand as they have been called to serve in deployments across the world even as they continue the most important mission of all, protecting us in our communities here at home.

The men and women of the 1/34th have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to our country—a commitment to serve and a willingness to sacrifice in combat operations. Their 22-month activation in Iraq was the longest tour of any military unit to have served in Iraq thus far. These Minnesota soldiers have completed some of the most grueling combat assignments. We should also pause to remember the brave members of this unit who made the ultimate sacrifice during their deployment. Their service and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

My office stands ready to assist all military personnel and their families. I believe strongly that our Federal Government must keep its promise to all those who have served. Providing the necessary healthcare, education, and disability benefits to meet the needs of our veterans is both a responsibly and a moral obligation.

Regardless of where individuals stand on the issues that face this Nation in Iraq we all must continue to support the men and women who volunteer to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces all around the world.

As we welcome home members of the 1/34th, we must also keep in our thoughts and prayers the many active duty military personnel, Reservists and Minnesota Guard members who continue to serve in harm's way in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, and elsewhere around the world. I commend each and every one of them for their strength, courage and dedication.

I would like to thank my colleague from Minnesota, Mr. WALZ, for bringing this important resolution to the House floor, and for his service to this country. I commend members of the Minnesota National Guard's 1st Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division.

#### TAIWAN PLANE SALES

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, despite recent aggressive behavior from China, Taiwan's democracy has continued to grow and flourish. I am pleased that this House can come together today in support of Taiwan.

China's industrial buildup in the last decade has been unprecedented. While Chinese citizens have been taking advantage of their increased economic freedom, the Chinese government has been using this economic growth to build up their military and position new and dangerous weapons along the Taiwan Strait.

The Taiwanese request to purchase 66 F-16 fighter planes will assist them in countering the growing threat of Chinese militarism. These weapons will allow the Taiwanese to balance the threat of hundreds of Chinese fighters and bombers that are stationed just on the other side of the Strait.

We have always stood by our friends in Taiwan and today we call on the President to en-

sure that that relationship stays as strong as ever. This House supports protecting the freedom of the Taiwanese people. Today, Taiwan is proof that a nation can successfully move from one-party rule to democracy and maintain its dynamic economy. I am hopeful that Chinese citizens can one day experience the same liberty as their counterparts in Taiwan.

#### WHY INTEGRATION MATTERS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce two stories written in the Washington Post on September 25, 2007 entitled, "A Little Rock Reminder" and "The Legacy of Little Rock", in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the integration of the school system of Little Rock, AR, by a brave group of Black children who came to be known as "The Little Rock Nine".

Integration has been a long and difficult process here in the United States. Only 50 years have passed since President Dwight Eisenhower decided to send soldiers to protect and defend the newly acquired rights of nine Black students to go to a previously all White school. Those brave Black students who endured the difficulties of starting the process of desegregation in schools in 1957 should be remembered and appreciated today, on the anniversary, and everyday.

It has been proven that integration is a key factor in the success of our society. A school where all races and nationalities work together is giving their students more than classes; they are teaching them the correct way to live, in harmony with the world. In addition it has been proven that an integrated learning environment leads to greater academic success.

Our society today still has a long way to go but it is a much healthier one than 50 years ago. These children were brave enough to understand what their parents and other leaders of their community knew—that they deserve the same rights as the next one; they too are citizens of the United States and all it represents. Their efforts need to be commended.

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 25, 2007]

A LITTLE ROCK REMINDER: NINE PIONEERS SHOWED WHY SCHOOL INTEGRATION MATTERS

(By Juan Williams)

Fifty years ago this week, President Dwight Eisenhower risked igniting the second U.S. civil war by sending 1,000 American soldiers into a Southern city. The troops, with bayonets at the end of their rifles, provided protection for nine black students trying to get into Little Rock's Central High School. Until the soldiers arrived, the black teenagers had been kept out by mobs and the Arkansas National Guard, in defiance of the Supreme Court's 1954 ruling ending school segregation.

The black children involved became the leading edge of a social experiment. Their lives offer answers to the question of what happens to black children who attend integrated schools, a question underscored by the recent Supreme Court ruling that voluntary school integration plans in Louisville and Seattle are unconstitutional.

The June decision said a focus on mixing students based on their skin color violates every student's right to be judged as an individual without regard to race. The ruling

confirmed a political reality: America long ago lost its appetite for doing whatever it takes—busing, magnet schools, court orders—to integrate schools. The level of segregation in U.S. public schools has been growing since 1988, reversing the trend toward integration triggered by Brown v. Board of Education.

The movement away from school integration is glaring. The Civil Rights Project found in 2003 that the nation's 27 biggest school districts were "overwhelmingly" segregated with black and Latino students. Nationwide today, almost half of black and Latino children are in schools where less than 10 percent of the students are white. Those essentially segregated schools have a large percentage of low-income families and, according to researchers, "difficulty retaining highly qualified teachers." Meanwhile, the average white student attends a school that is 80 percent white and far more affluent than the schools for minority students.

This trend toward isolation of poor and minority students has consequences—half of black and Latino students now drop out of high school.

Integrated schools benefit students, especially minorities. Research on the long-term outcomes of black and Latino students attending integrated schools indicates that those students "complete more years of education, earn higher degrees and major in more varied occupations than graduates of all-black schools."

That conclusion is reflected in the lives of the Little Rock Nine, who represent the black middle class that grew rapidly as better schools became open to black people during the 1960s and '70s.

Ernest Green, 65, who became the first black student to graduate from Central High, is the most prominent of the nine. He earned a master's degree in sociology and worked in the Carter and Clinton administrations. He is director of public finance in Washington for Lehman Brothers.

Melba Pattillo Beals, 65, chairs the African American history department at Dominican University in River Forest, IL, and wrote an award-winning book about her experiences at Central High; Elizabeth Eckford, 65, is a probation officer in Arkansas; Gloria Ray Karlmark, 64, moved to Sweden to work for IBM and later founded and edited the magazine *Computers in Industry*; Carlotta Walls LaNier, 64, started a real estate company in Colorado; Terrence Roberts, 65, is a psychologist in California; Jefferson Thomas, 64, fought in Vietnam and worked in government in Ohio for nearly 30 years; Minniejean Brown Trickey, 66, worked in the Clinton administration and is a visiting writer at Arkansas State University; and Thelma Mothershead Wair, 66, became a teacher.

Part of their success comes from their ability to mix easily with black and white people and to comfortably join the social and professional networks that segregation kept from black people. In fact, most of the nine worked in mostly white organizations. And four of the nine married white people (three black women married white men, and one black man married a white woman).

In her book "Turn Away Thy Son," Arkansas native Elizabeth Jacoway notes that the nine never take a group picture with white spouses or mixed-race children. Jacoway believes they don't want to take away from black pride in their achievement or reignite segregationist fears about interracial sex.

Terrence Roberts, who went on to become a psychology professor, thinks "fear of black people in the family" is still a driving force pulling Americans away from integrated schools. Ernest Green, whose first wife was white, calls it the "zipper issue. . . sex and race are highly combustible."

The interracial daughter of Minniejean Brown Trickey, Spirit Trickey, works as a Park Service tour guide at a memorial to the events at Central High. She says visitors regularly ask why so many of the nine broke the taboo against interracial marriage.

"My answer is that the Little Rock Nine followed the principles of nonviolence," she said. "They married who they fell in love with. But it is telling that so many people ask about it. It tells me where we are today."

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 25, 2007]  
THE LEGACY OF LITTLE ROCK: FIFTY YEARS AGO, HE AND 8 OTHERS BECAME THE FACES OF INTEGRATION. NOW HE IS A SIGN OF ITS SUCCESS.

(By Avis Thomas-Lester)

Ernest G. Green Jr. sees much of the world now from a top floor corner office on K Street, just blocks from the White House and a very long way from where he started.

His BlackBerry holds the phone numbers of powerful men: former president Bill Clinton; Robert L. Johnson, founder of Black Entertainment Television and co-owner of the Charlotte Bobcats; former ambassador Andrew Young; and three candidates for president of the United States.

He spends his days negotiating multi-million-dollar deals as managing director of public finance for Wall Street stalwart Lehman Brothers with clients including the City of New York and the State of Connecticut. He has a big house in Northwest Washington, "a beautiful wife, three wonderful kids" and a lot of gratitude for the circumstances that catapulted him from segregated Little Rock into U.S. history as one of nine students to integrate Central High School 50 years ago today.

"It has been a tremendous boost for me," said Green, who turned 66 on Saturday. "It provided me with opportunities I never would have otherwise had. I had a tremendous window into the last half of 20th century."

Green returned to his home town this weekend for events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of Central High. Five decades ago, Green and eight other students were escorted into the school by the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division under orders from President Dwight Eisenhower after Gov. Orval Faubus used the state's National Guard to block the integration effort.

In the year that followed, Green and the others, who came to be known as the Little Rock Nine, were tripped on the stairs, attacked in the halls and pushed out of lunchroom lines. Teachers and administrators largely ignored them. The few white students who befriended them were subjected to ill treatment as well.

"Clearly, none of us anticipated that it would be as difficult as it was," said Green, the first of the nine to graduate. "But once we got there, all nine of us knew how important it was to stay. Backing down was not an option."

His story is a testament to the potential of forced integration, a remedy widely debated now as many urban school districts become resegregated. Green said people miss out when they don't mingle with those who are different from themselves. "We need to make sure children understand that they are more similar than different."

Green never set out to become an icon of the civil rights movement, with a movie made of his life and a congressional medal to his name. What he did, he said, was simply step out of his comfort zone.

"Too many blacks today," he said, "opt for comfort over taking a chance that might change their lives. We have to work hard to break through our comforts."

Many wouldn't consider a childhood in the segregated South a comfortable place, but Green has fond memories of growing up at the corner of 21st and Pulaski. His father, Ernest Sr., who died when Green was 13, was a janitor at the post office; his mother, Lothaire, taught in Little Rock schools for 43 years.

He, his sister, Treopia, and his brother, Scott, learned about taking a stand from their mother. In the 1940s, she supported the efforts of black teacher Susie Morris, who, with NAACP Legal Defense Fund attorney Thurgood Marshall, sued the Little Rock schools, demanding equal pay. His mother opened their home to Marshall when he was in town working on the case.

Green grew up riding past the impressive edifice of Central High School, considered the best school in town. The name was stamped into the secondhand books that taught him U.S. history, algebra and chemistry. As a member of the marching band—he played tenor saxophone—at segregated Horace Mann High School, he had marched on Central's field.

"We didn't have a stadium, so the black schools played on the field one night and the white schools another," he recalled.

Green was 13 when the U.S. Supreme Court, acting on arguments by Marshall, outlawed school segregation in the Brown v. Board of Education case. Even so, many officials in Southern states vehemently refused to carry out the order.

No such sentiment was evident in Little Rock in 1957, which had a progressive reputation, Green said. Blacks owned businesses. There was a thriving black middle class. The public libraries and city buses were integrated, as was the University of Arkansas campus. Several Arkansas school districts had voluntarily integrated.

It was against this backdrop that the Little Rock school board decided to integrate.

"I heard about it on the radio that they were looking for students interested in going to Central," said Minniejean Brown Trickey, another of the Little Rock Nine. "It started off that there were 23 of us, but by the time we got to school that first day, there were only nine."

It was Green's idea to attend Central High, and his mother, like the other parents, supported the decision. "They had some idea of what it would do to change the opportunities for all the black folks in Little Rock if we were able to integrate the school," he said.

Green said they were all thunderstruck by the level of resistance.

"We didn't think there would be a confrontation," he said. "Orval Faubus was regarded as a progressive white Southerner. My mother had voted for him as governor. He didn't have an image of being a firebrand segregationist or racist."

On Sept. 4, the students were denied entry by guardsmen and racists yelling epithets. After the NAACP took the case to court, they were allowed in on Sept. 23 but had to leave early because of fears of violence. Two days later, with an escort from the 101st Airborne, they were admitted.

For four weeks, things were relatively quiet. Soldiers escorted the nine black students to class. Many avid segregationists kept their children at home.

"Once they saw we weren't leaving, they started to trickle back in," Green said. Soon, the harassment started.

As the only senior, Green was a prominent target.

"It seemed to me that one of the things that would drive them crazy was if I were to be successful," he recalled. "So I was determined to stick it out that whole year."

Each morning, the black students would gather at one of their homes or at the home

of Daisy Bates, the legendary Arkansas NAACP president, and her husband, L.C. Bates, founder of the Arkansas State Press, the state's leading black newspaper.

The hostility didn't subside until the day before Green's graduation.

"There were a number of white kids who got up the nerve to come over and congratulate me for getting through the year," he said.

The principal urged Green to take his diploma and go home without attending the commencement ceremony.

"Local authorities were afraid there would be some attempt to do physical harm to me, but I was convinced that I had angels looking over me," Green said. "I figured I had gone through [too much] not to enjoy the benefits of the service."

As it turned out, Martin Luther King Jr., who had gained prominence with the Montgomery bus boycott 2 years earlier, was in Arkansas.

"He came up the evening of the ceremony to sit with my mother, aunt and family," Green said. "I didn't know he was in the audience until after the ceremony was over."

The next five decades of Green's life have, in many ways, been defined by that year at Central High.

He devoted himself to civil rights causes. At Michigan State University, which he attended on a full scholarship, he became president of the school's NAACP chapter and often protested the policies of the university's president, John Hannah. Thirty years later, he learned that Hannah had personally arranged for his scholarship.

After earning bachelor's and master's degrees, Green moved to New York and worked with civil rights leaders A. Philip Randolph and Bayard Rustin to recruit minorities into the building trades. In 1977, he was tapped by President Jimmy Carter as assistant secretary of labor for employment and training. He later formed a minority consulting company with Alexis Herman, who would be named Clinton's labor secretary.

In 1987, capitalizing on the relationships he made in public service, he took a position with Lehman Brothers as an investment banker; his projects included underwriting municipal debt with governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations. Again, he drew on his experience at Central High.

"It made me a tougher negotiator, able to control my emotions and able to handle the ups and down of business and life," he said.

The years have brought proud moments: In 1999, Clinton awarded Green and the rest of the Little Rock Nine the Congressional Gold Medal. There have also been humbling times: In 2002, Green was sentenced to 90 days of home detention and given a \$10,000 fine for failing to declare and pay taxes on income he received as part of a planned business venture.

Today, he works passionately to help young people. He noted that last week, 50 years after he entered Central High, black activists were gathered in Jena, La., to protest the treatment of six black youths arrested after a racially tinged brawl.

"A lot of people don't realize," he said, "that there is still racial injustice in this country."

#### IN MEMORY OF HERBERT D. KATZ

#### HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of south Flor-

ida philanthropist, prominent attorney, and real estate developer, Herbert D. Katz.

Mr. Katz was a well-known member of the community, involved with numerous causes and organizations. A longtime Hollywood and Fort Lauderdale resident, Mr. Katz graduated from Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania with a bachelor's degree in 1951, and Harvard Law School in 1954. From 1954–1957 he served in the U.S. Coast Guard, was appointed to be a member of the United States Holocaust Memorial in 1988 by President Reagan, was President of the Jewish Federation of Broward County from 1974–1976, and chaired the United Jewish Appeal's, UJA, Retirement Committee from 1986–1989.

A highly recognized donor to numerous causes, especially in the Jewish community, Mr. Katz went on to support and serve on the boards of many philanthropic organizations including the Israel Education Fund of UJA, American-Israel Public Affairs Committee, AIPAC, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, the Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, and the American Friends of Hebrew University, just to name a few. He and his wife were instrumental in helping to finance the building in Davie, bearing their names, that houses the Jewish Federation of Broward County. They also established the coveted Herb and Ellie Katz Leadership Development Award, presented each year by the Jewish Federation of Broward County.

In addition to his wife Eleanor, Mr. Katz is survived by 5 children—Laura, Thomas, Sally, Walter and Daniel, and 8 grandchildren. This was a man whose presence will be greatly missed throughout south Florida.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF ARMY CAPTAIN MARIA INES ORTIZ OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY

#### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the bravery, compassion, and selflessness of U.S. Army Captain Maria Ines Ortiz, from Camden, New Jersey who was killed in Baghdad, Iraq on July 10, 2007. Captain Ortiz was assigned to the 28th Combat Support Hospital, 3rd Medical Command in Baghdad's "Green Zone." Her death marks the first combat related casualty of an army nurse since the Vietnam War.

Captain Ortiz was born in Camden, New Jersey but spent most of her childhood in Bayamon, Puerto Rico. Her career in army medicine began in 1991 when she enlisted in the United States Army Reserve. Captain Ortiz's first two years of active duty included service in Honduras, South Korea, and eventually Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington DC. These experiences helped to solidify her resolve to become a registered nurse, a goal she achieved in 1999, earning a degree in nursing from the University of Puerto Rico.

After subsequently being commissioned as an Army officer, Captain Ortiz worked as a dialysis nurse at Walter Reed for 2 years then served as chief nurse at the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic for 18 months before being sent to Iraq last fall. She had a smile that lit up the

hallways and won the hearts of the medical staff in every hospital she worked. If a patient required extra attention, she worked late. If a colleague was feeling down, she was there to comfort and support that colleague.

Maria Iris Ortiz is a true hero in every sense of the word. She will be remembered for her exceptional devotion. Madam Speaker, I commend Captain Maria Iris Ortiz for her selflessness and courage in making the ultimate sacrifice to her country.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, due to the passing of my father, on Monday, October 1, 2007 I missed rollcall vote nos. 924, 925 and 926. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H. Con. Res. 185, H.R. 2276, and H.R. 3325.

#### ACKNOWLEDGING NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

#### HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, In 1945, Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October of each year as "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week," in order to educate the American public about issues related to disability and employment. From there, the week expanded into a month designated "National Disability Employment Awareness Month." And today, I am so pleased to acknowledge and praise those who work to further the necessary awareness of those individuals and American workers who live with a disability.

The American worker has enough to handle and manage as it is, but the employee who lives with a disability copes with other barriers many of us will never experience. I commend the work these groups are doing to ensure these individuals, completely capable of employment, find that employment and are not discriminated against. However, there is much work to do. The employment rate of working age people with disabilities remains only half that of people without disabilities. These numbers are far too low and this population has for far too long been a group unable to rise above the employment and earnings gaps. There is a benefit to us all for working toward inclusion of more and more disabled workers. Again, I am pleased to celebrate "National Disability Employment Awareness Month" this October and will continue my ongoing efforts in Congress to ensure equality for all, making the barriers facing individuals with disabilities once and for all a thing of the past.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE  
LARRY S. PIERCE POST OFFICE  
ACT

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of legislation I introduced to designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 427 North Street in Taft, California as the "Larry S. Pierce Post Office."

U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Pierce was born in Oklahoma in 1941. As a young child his family moved to Taft, California, which I represent. SSG Pierce attended Taft City Schools and would have graduated from Taft Union High School with the Class of 1959, but decided to serve his country by joining the U.S. Army in 1958. SSG Pierce served with the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade in the Vietnam War.

On September 20, 1965 near Ben Cat in Vietnam, SSG Pierce, while leading his reconnaissance platoon, was ambushed by hostile forces. SSG Pierce and his squad successfully routed the hostile forces from their location. During pursuit of the enemy, SSG Pierce heroically sacrificed his own life to save the lives of his fellow soldiers by throwing himself on an antipersonnel mine as it exploded.

In February 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson posthumously awarded SSG Pierce the Medal of Honor on behalf of the United States Congress. SSG Pierce's Medal of Honor citation notes in part his "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty," his "inspiring leadership and personal courage," and his "profound concern for his fellow soldiers" acting with "extraordinary heroism, at the cost of his life" to save the lives of his fellow soldiers, which reflects the "highest traditions of the U.S. Army" and "great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country."

SSG Pierce would have been 66 years old this year, and is survived by his wife Verlin, who currently lives in Bakersfield, California, and his children Teresa, Kelley, and Gregory. My legislation is a fitting honor for this Vietnam War hero, who sacrificed his life to save the lives of fellow soldiers, by naming the post office in his hometown of Taft in his memory.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on September 26, 2007 I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes No. 912 and No. 913. Had I been present, I would have voted: Rollcall vote No. 912: "aye." Rollcall vote No. 913: "nay."

EFFORTS TO COMBAT  
TUBERCULOSIS

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 2, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address a deadly epidemic that is facing our planet today—tuberculosis. We have learned that no country, no matter how advanced its health infrastructure, is no longer immune from tuberculosis (TB).

Fortunately, through the generosity of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and leadership in the U.S. Congress, we can make a major difference in developing urgently needed tools to fight this problem. On September 18, the Gates Foundation announced new funding in the fight to stop TB by granting \$280 million to several organizations creating new tools to curb this disease, including the largest single award to any research or product development organization—\$200 million to the Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation, which is located in my congressional district.

Those who live in the developing countries know this disease every day. This global epidemic has confronted us in several ways in the last few months. The case of the airline passenger infected with drug-resistant tuberculosis reminded Americans how vulnerable we all are to a disease we thought was a problem of the past or an affliction just affecting the developing world. In this truly global world, diseases such as tuberculosis know no boundaries.

The statistics are staggering. TB kills 1.6 million people per year, or 4,400 every single

day. It is the largest killer worldwide of women of reproductive age and of people with HIV/AIDS. TB bacilli are in the bodies of one out of every three people in the world today. This devastating disease is challenging the best health systems and is threatening the lives of thousands in the developing world.

But Congress is not sitting still in the face of such troubling events. Just recently, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee reported out the Stop TB Now Act of 2007, which commits this country to a new recognition of the threat of TB and a larger effort to finally rid this planet of this scourge. And the House provides \$313 million for global TB efforts in its FY 2008 State-Foreign Operations Appropriations bill.

These efforts follow the bold, innovative, heartfelt, and committed leadership of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. As important as the Gates Foundation's latest \$280 million investment in tuberculosis is, it is not enough. A new vaccine candidate must go through large and expensive clinical trials, involving thousands of people and costing over hundreds of millions of dollars.

Private philanthropy cannot be the only solution to this important challenge. It is only right that the United States government, and other donor governments, step up to the plate and finish the job.

Vaccines are the key to ending epidemics. They are among the most medically and economically effective health interventions available. The United States already funds research to develop much-needed vaccines for HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other global diseases. Funding TB vaccine development is a logical and humanitarian next step for us to take. European donors are already contributing to this fight; for example, the government of the Netherlands has made a sizable commitment of approximately \$25 million to the Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation for vaccine development. The United States should shoulder our fair share of this important shared mission.

I urge my colleagues to appropriate the necessary resources to complete this vital work and follow the outstanding leadership demonstrated by the Gates Foundation's generous investment in TB research.